

the injustice they are perpetrating while the means are at hand and ready of access; for the architect whose opinion they apply for would almost as readily, and I should say with far greater willingness, decide on the whole number as on four. **COMPETITOR.**

* The letter quoted is written by Dr. Fairbrother, the senior physician of the hospital, and states that both the committee and sub-committee are packed, and are guided by "party interest and political favour." The writer goes on to say,—"As a medical man, I state that the design about no doubt to be fixed on (as the packed committee have an overwhelming majority) is faulty in many respects, badly ventilated, warehouses ill-lighted, and not placed in accordance to printed instructions to architects, besides going over the allotted ground shown on the block plan as 'property of the hospital trustees not required,' the wards not able to take sixteen beds, as ordered in the instructions, several rooms without fire-places, and other serious objections—for instance, areas fourteen feet deep." Knowing the high character of some of the gentlemen on the committee, we can with difficulty believe these and other statements which have been made. The committee owe it to themselves, as well as to the public, for whom they are trustees, to obtain the opinion of a qualified architect not concerned in the competition, on the whole of the designs, tested especially by reference to the instructions. We hope they will justify our good opinion by adopting this course, and thus do justice to the competitors, and rid themselves of an onus which must otherwise be hurtful to the charity.

THE PAPER-STAINING TRADE OF EUROPE AND AMERICA.*

AN interesting document has lately been drawn up, presented to, and read before the Industrial Society of Mulhausen, by M. Jean Zuber, fils, an eminent paper-printer at Rixheim, near that city, and formerly president of the society, on the paper-printing; or, as it used to be called, paper-staining,† trade of Europe and the United States. M. Zuber himself being at the head of one of the largest establishments in France, if not the largest, in that branch of industry, and he will be well remembered here as one of the enlightened jury selected to examine, report upon the merits of, and award the prizes to the various competing candidates of all countries in that manufacture, at the Exhibition. The length of the document in question does not permit of more than a brief analysis of its contents, but it is well worthy of more studied reference, as involving the advantage of a closer acquaintance with one of those elements of national wealth which contribute more than gold and silver mines to the industrial prosperity of a nation.

In his historical prelude the author refers to the origin of paper-printing in China, just as the art of printed cottons was derived from India, where both are still exercised more by hand labour than by machinery.

From China paper-staining passed into England towards the middle of the last century, and manufactories are quoted as existing in 1746. From England this industry passed into France, towards the end of the century, or say about 1780; and in 1790 the manufacture was established at Mulhausen by the house in which M. Zuber himself is a leading partner. Shortly afterwards several considerable establishments were formed at Lyons and other places; but at length Paris became the centre of this industry in France, as did also London, until within a few years past, in England. Germany commenced the paper-printing fabrication after France, but upon a small scale: then came Switzerland, Holland, and Belgium, upon a smaller still. Vienna, and, later on, Warsaw, had each an establishment, founded, says M. Zuber, upon "elements drawn from our house." Russia had its imperial manufactory at Tsarskoe Zelo, which consumes millions though scarcely pro-

ducing anything. Spain also had its manufacture at Madrid, founded by a Frenchman. Such was the situation of this industry some score of years ago,—that is to say, that England then possessed about twenty manufactories, France thirty, Germany ten, and each of the other countries cited one or two.

M. Zuber proceeds to show, that as to the improvements realized in the processes of fabrication, they are due almost exclusively to France, more especially in respect of the taste and beauty of the designs, and the application of various colours never before attempted. Painting was first replaced by engraving on plates, and this subsequently by the fabrication and employment of rollers without end, printing of the cylinder in copper, &c. The only process, acknowledged, however, to be most interesting, which had been introduced from England into France, consists in the velveting upon paper, which has since been carried to greater perfection in the latter country. Since then, and within a few years only, printing by the cylinder, in relief, of many colours, combined with their deepening and softening, have served to give a new impulse and direction to the trade. These last improvements were not realized on the continent, where the low rate of wages leaves the manufacturer nothing to desire: they were derived in effect from the United States and England. The former commenced the manufacture a few years since only, but, as workmen were scarce, steam was had recourse to at once. Each manufacturer of stained paper founded there commenced by mounting a steam-engine as the principal agent. Thus they print, satin, and deepen by steam, badly enough in truth, but that little concerns them: they produce much and cheaply, and that is what they desire.

Without following M. Zuber into the details of the tariffs by which the manufacture is protected against foreign competition—in France for example—by a prohibitive duty, and in other countries either to the same extent or by a graduated protective legislation, England being the least protected of all, we shall now give his estimates of the extent of the total fabrication in each country, drawn, as he states, from the most reliable sources and communications with the best authorities. It may be added that this is the first attempt of the kind to ascertain the relative importance of this branch of industry in all countries.

Countries.	Number of Tables.	Number of Machines.	Number of Workmen.	Number of Rolls produced.	Value in millions of Francs.	Average of a Roll.
England.....	800	—	1,900	2,300,000	7,800,000	3.25
Id. Id.	—	20	100	1,300,000	2,500,000	.75
France.....	1200	—	4,500	3,200,000	6,200,000	1.35
Id. Id.	—	30	50	200,000	200,000	1.0
The Zollverein	400	14	1,500	1,500,000	1,600,000	1.0
Belgium.....	150	6	600	600,000	1,000,000	1.65
Holland.....	50	—	200	240,000	300,000	1.20
Switzerland...	30	—	100	100,000	100,000	1.0
Austria.....	60	4	250	300,000	600,000	3.0
Piedmont.....	40	—	150	300,000	300,000	1.0
Russia.....	100	4	400	600,000	1,500,000	3.0
Sweden and Denmark...	30	—	100	100,000	300,000	3.0
Spain.....	100	8	400	400,000	700,000	1.75
United States	400	80	1,900	7,750,000	8,900,000	1.15
Id. Id.	—	—	150	—	—	—
Totals.....	3180	120	12,000	33,300,000	38,600,000	—

M. Zuber, in these estimates, has reduced the English rolls, which are larger, to the dimensions adopted everywhere else, and which are 6½ metres broad upon 8½ long.

FALL OF AN ANCIENT TOWER.—The largest tower of the Chateau of Chervaux, near Niot, one of the most noted constructions of the middle ages, fell in on Thursday in week before last. Two female servants, who were sleeping in one of the chambers of the tower, heard a rumbling noise, and hurried away. In a few seconds the fall took place.

THE ROMAN PAVEMENTS AT WOODCHESTER are shortly to be uncovered, for the purpose of affording archaeologists and others an opportunity of inspecting these remains, which have not been seen for several years. The more recent discoveries at Cirencester will rather add to than detract from the interest attaching to these tessellations.

BUILDERS' BILLS.

ORDERS BY TENANTS.

Todd v. Sullivan.—At the Brompton County Court, before Mr. Meade. The plaintiff, a builder, of Chelsea, sought to recover 12*l.* 10*s.* of the defendant, residing at Rutland-gate, Hyde-park. The action is one of some importance to builders doing work for house-agents, and shows the necessity of their understanding for whom they are working.

Mr. Todd said he was employed by Messrs. Rogers and Dear, house-agents and apportioners, to make some alterations in a furnished house of theirs, let to the defendant. Mr. Frear, foreman to Messrs. Rogers and Dear, and also Mr. Dear, gave him printed instructions what to do. Upon his commencing the work, Mr. Sullivan came to him and gave other directions. The defendant said Mr. Dear had promised to have certain work done and it much inconvenienced him at its not being done; and if he (the plaintiff) did not choose to do it, he would call some one else in and deduct the amount from Messrs. Rogers and Dear's account. Defendant had book-cases and other things altered and made.

By Mr. Williams.—Never charged Rogers and Dear for the same account, and no part of it has ever been paid. Mr. Dear first sent him to the house.

Thomas Ray, a carpenter, deposed to working under the direction of Mr. Sullivan; and another carpenter in plaintiff's employ said he did not know his master was working for Rogers and Dear.

Mr. Williams, solicitor, said the house was the property of Messrs. Rogers and Dear, and that they let it furnished to Mr. Sullivan, at a rental of 600*l.* per annum. Mr. Todd had worked for Messrs. Rogers and Dear, and, as some alterations were required, they directed the plaintiff what to do. A quarrel takes place with Todd and Messrs. Rogers and Dear, on account of the latter refusing to pay the plaintiff exorbitant charges for bad work. Mr. Sullivan certainly might have said to Todd, do so and so; but he merely directed him as a tenant, not as an employer. If any one were liable to the claims, it must be Messrs. Rogers and Dear, and not the defendants. If claims like these were admitted, no tenant would be safe whilst repairs were being done by his landlord. He called Mr. Frear, foreman to Messrs. Dear, who said he gave Todd orders to do part of the work, and, having examined the work with plaintiff, found it to be very much overcharged and badly executed.

Mr. Dear said Todd was employed by them, and he had no business whatever to do any work for their tenant, Mr. Sullivan. He was not aware that Mr. Sullivan gave any orders to Todd. The work was not perfectly done, and he ordered some of it to be done over again.

The Judge said, he was not satisfied that the claim was made out. He thought Mr. Sullivan only did what one might expect from a tenant under such circumstances. Verdict for defendant, with costs.

Miscellaneous.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The following is an outline of the proposed proceedings of the Congress, to be held at Newark, on August 16th to 21st:—Monday, Aug. 16—Meeting of general committee; dinner at ordinary at the Clinton Arms; evening meeting in the Town-hall; president's address; papers; order of business. Excursions will be made on the Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday to Newstead Abbey, Lincoln, Worksop, Clumber, Belvoir, Haxton, Southwell, Thurgarton, Nottingham, and other places, which when arranged will be announced in a future programme. On Friday there will be a public dinner; and on Saturday, a closing meeting in the Town-hall. Amongst the papers already announced are,—Mr. J. J. Jewitt, on Ancient Customs and Sports of the County of Nottingham; Mr. Bateman, on some of the Contents of the Nottinghamshire Barrows; Mr. Wickes, on the Churches of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire; Mr. Pettigrew, on Newstead Abbey; Rev. J. F. Dimock, on the History of the Collegiate Church of Southwell; Mr. Ashpitel, on the Architecture of the same; Mr. Halliwell, on the Era and Character of Robin Hood; Mr. Gutch, on Robin Hood and the Ballade; Mr. Bridger, on the Mint at Newark; Mr. Duesbury, on Newark Castle and the Siege of Newark; Mr. O'Connor, on the Painted Glass in Lincoln Cathedral, &c.

* From the Morning Herald.

† The term "paper-printing" appears to be no improvement on the old term "paper-staining."